administrative jurisdiction of the State Governments/UT Administrations.

(c) State Governments/UT Administrations agreed to provide, a minimum of 20 kg. of foodgrains per month per family to the population living in the Blocks identified under RPDS. While this quantity is a desired target, the actual offtake by each tribal household would depend on a number of factors such as purchasing power of the family, open market availability and prices of foodgrains including coarse grains and the family's own production for consumption.

Fall in price of coconut oil

4258. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what are the reasons for the sharp up trend of prices of edible oils other than coconut oil during 1993-94 ;

(b) what are the reasons for the fall in price of coconut oil ; and

(c) whether Government have any plan to purchase coconut oil in order to protect the interests of coconut growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Some of the reasons for the sharp up trend in the prices of edible oils other than coconut oil during 1993-94 are as follows :—

(i) delayed arrival of rabi crops ;

(ii) less carry over stock of edible oils ;

(iii) reported hoarding by farmers and oilseed growers' co-operatives to get lucrative prices ; and

(iv) increase in demand for edible oils.

(b) The reasons attributed to fall in prices of coconut oil are increased production of coconut oil and various measures taken by Coconut Development Board like expansion of area under coconut by providing subsidy for new planting in various States viz. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Andaman Nicobar Islands ; production and distribution of hybrid seedlings.

(c) No, Sir.

Consumer Welfare Fund

4259. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL :

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a consumer welfare fund ;

(b) if so, what is the total consumer funds so far distributed among the States ;

(c) what was the main aim and objectives of this fund ;

(d) whether various organisations have also been asked to apply for the fund ;

(e) if so, what are the conditions that are being imposed in utilising the funds ;

(f) whether the objectives of the fund for which this was set up has been achieved ; and

(g) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount of assistance being provided so far (State-wise) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Nil—Applications have been invited upto 31-5-1994.

(c) The overall objectives of the Consumer Welfare Fund is to promote and protect the welfare of consumers and to strengthen the voluntary consumer movement particularly in the rural areas.

(d) to (g) Yes, Sir. According to the Consumer Welfare Fund Rules, various organisations/agencies which are engaged in the consumer welfare activities for a period of three years and are registered under the Companies Act, 1956 or under any other law for the time being in force,

village level co-operatives, industries, State Governments are entitled to apply for aid from the Consumer Welfare Fund. The assistance will be provided on a project basis and will be mainly for production and distribution of publicity material, setting up of facilities for training and research in consumer education, community based rural awareness projects, setting up of consumer products testing laboratories etc. The terms and conditions for utilising the Funds will be prescribed at the time of sanction.

The Consumer Welfare Fund became operational from 27-1-1994 and applications have been invited to reach the Ministry before 31-5-1994.

It is too early to comment on achievement of objectives.

खाद्यान्नों पर सहायता में वृद्धि

4260. **श्री जगन्नाथ सिंह :** क्या **नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार की योजना के अधीन आदिवासी क्षेत्रों के लिए राज्यों को रियायती दर पर जो खाद्यान्नों की आपूर्ति की जाती है, उसे लगभग चार वर्ष पूर्व 25 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल मार्जिन की दर से निर्धारित किया गया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या राज्यों से सूचना प्राप्त करने के बाद वास्तविक व्यय को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस मार्जिन को निर्धारित किया गया था;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि विभिन्न राज्यों ने इस अतिरिक्त राशि को अपर्याप्त बताते हुए इसमें वृद्धि करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार से अनुरोध किया है ;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने यातायात व्यय, माल लादने और उतारने के प्रभार आदि की दरों में वृद्धि के अनुरूप, चार वर्ष पहले निर्धारित इस मार्जिन की राशि में कोई वृद्धि नहीं की है ; और

(ङ) यदि राज्य सरकारों द्वारा खर्च की जा रही वास्तविक राशि से केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित मार्जिन की यह राशि कम है, तो राज्यों/राज्यों के आपूर्ति निगमों द्वारा उठाये जा रहे घाटों की प्रतिपूर्ति हेतु केन्द्रीय सरकार ने क्या व्यवस्था की है ?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) 25 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल का मार्जिन दिसंबर, 1985 में नियत किया गया था, जब समेकित अधिकारी विकास परियोजना क्षेत्रों में विशेष रूप से राजसहायता प्राप्त मूल्यों पर खाद्यान्नों के वितरण हेतु योजना शुरू की गई थी ।

(ख) इसे अन्तिम रूप दिए जाने से पहले भारत सरकार के कई मंत्रालयों और विभागों तथा अनेक राज्य सरकारों के साथ परामर्श किया गया था ।

(ग) कुछ राज्य सरकारों ने बैठकों तथा चर्चाओं में वर्तमान मार्जिन अपर्याप्त होने का जिक्र किया है ।

(घ) और (ङ) सम्पुष्ट सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के तहत आने वाले चिरकालिक खाद्य की कमी वाले क्षेत्रों में रह रहे उपभोक्ताओं के लिए दिए जा सकने वाले मूल्य बनाए रखने के वांछित उद्देश्य के अनुरूप मार्जिन में वृद्धि नहीं की गई है । केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा विशेष रूप से राजसहायता प्राप्त मूल्यों पर खाद्यान्न जारी करने में पहले से वहन की जा रही आर्थिक सहायता के अतिरिक्त और सहायता देने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

Loss to BCCL and ECL

4261. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the loss of Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Eastern Coalfields Limited during the last three years and their production, facts in detail with year-wise breakup;

(b) what are the details of their manpower;

(c) the out-turn per man shift (OMS) underground and open cast; and

(d) the break-up of OMS to make these companies viable and the steps taken to attain that?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The details of profits(+)/losses(—) in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) during the last two years were as under :—

(Before contributions from Coal Price Regulation Account)

(Rs. in crores)

	ECL	BCCL
1991-92	(—) 319.79	(—) 380.09
1992-93	(—) 346·35	(—) 337.30